

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Rejection Under 35 USC 103(a)

Claims 36, 37, 39, 41, 42 and 44-46 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,974,300 ("LaPorta et al.") in view of US Patent No. 6,597,701 ("Howell"). (Because Claims 37 and 39, and claims 42 and 44-46 are dependent upon independent Claims 36 and 41, respectively, they include all limitations of those dependent claims. This response, therefore, addresses the present rejection with regard to independent Claims 36 and 41.) More specifically, the Patent Office states the following language on pages 2 and 3 of the instant Office Action:

LaPorta fails to disclose wired means in the contact information gathering system for the network station to interface with wireless communications service provider stations, and that the sources of gathering of contact information are wireless telecommunication service provider databases of subscriber information.

However, in an analogous art, Howell discloses wired means 306 in the contact information gathering system for the network station to interface with wireless communications service provider stations, and that the sources of gathering of contact information are wireless telecommunication service provider databases 1102 of subscriber information. See FIGS. 3 and 32, col. 10, line 55-col. 11, line 4, and col. 32, lines 21-35 Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of LaPorta by incorporating these features, as taught by Howell, for the purpose of conveniently incorporating the system in an existing wireline environment, such as that in an office or hotel building, and in an existing subscriber based communication system.

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and submits that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established because the applied references fail to teach or suggest each and every element of the claims. Applicant submits that neither LaPorta et al. nor Howell discloses or suggests the combination of features recited in the at least independent claims 36 and 41. Applicant also submits that no proper combination of these documents disclose or suggest the combination of features recited in at least the independent claims. In particular, Applicant's independent claims 36 and 41 both teach gathering contact information for wireless telecommunication devices from one or more wireless telecommunications service provider databases of subscriber information. The proposed combination of references fails to teach or suggest this claimed element of Applicant's invention.

First, with regard to LaPorta et al., Applicant agrees with the Examiner's statement that LaPorta fails to teach, "...that the sources of gathering of contact information are wireless telecommunication service provider databases of subscriber information." Applicant, however, disagrees with the Examiner that Howell cures this deficiency.

The invention of Howell is non-analogous to the present invention and fails to teach contact information gathering, let alone gathering contact information from telecommunication service provider databases of subscriber information. Instead, Howell teaches a system and method for processing calls to a known number, including calls involving local number portability. For example, column 5, lines 54-62 describe this processing:

The system of the present invention processes call information to make call connections. A call has user communications and call signaling. The user communications contain the caller's information...Call signaling, for example, contains information describing the **called number** and the calling number. [Emphasis added.]

The invention of Howell relies upon a caller knowing a destination number in advance of dialing. The called number is a number already known to the caller, and this necessarily precludes requesting contact information, let alone requesting contact information gathered from telecommunication service provider databases of subscriber information.

Not only does the invention of Howell rely upon the caller already knowing a called number and dialing that number, but the call processor of the Howell invention comprises a number of tables, including called number screening table, for characterizing the called number for efficient processing of that called number. The call processor of Howell therefore is directed toward efficiently connecting the caller to the known, called number. Language at column 23, lines 32-43 describes this processing element and several call processing tables, including the database services table 1102 highlighted in the instant Office Action:

The called number screening table 916 is used to provide the trigger detection point (TDP) for an AIN SCP TCAP query. It is used, for example, with the local number portability (LNP) feature. The called number screening table can invoke a TCAP [transaction capabilities application part request]. The called number screening table 916 typically points to the called number table 918. All though the called number screening table 916 can point to the routing table 920, the treatment table, the call rate table, the percent table (see FIG. 10), and the database services table (see FIG. 11). **The called number table 918 is used to identify routing requirements based on, for example, the called number.** [Emphasis added.]

Again, Howell requires that a caller know the destination number in advance of dialing, and the call processing tables are available to support routing the call.

Additionally, Column 25, lines 39-45 of the Howell reference further describe the database services table 1102, which is non-analogous to telecommunication service provider databases of subscriber information:

The database services table 1102 contains information about the type of database service requested by call processing. The database services table 1102 references and obtains information from the SCCP [signaling connection control part] table 1104 and the TCAP table 1108. After the database function is performed, the call is returned to normal call processing. The database services table 1102 points to the called number table 918.

Howell thus teaches efficiently routing a call to a known, dialed destination number which is non-analogous to the present invention of enabling a user to selectively request specific contact information related to a particular wireless telephone subscriber. The call processing tables taught by Howell, particularly the database services table 1102, are non-analogous to the wireless telecommunication service provider databases of subscriber information from which requested contact information is gathered for dissemination to requesting callers. The tables of Howell are provided to process a call to a known, dialed number. Howell therefore fails to cure the deficiency of Laporta et al. and the proposed combination of references fails to disclose a key element of the present invention.

The proposed combination of references thus fails to teach or suggest Applicant's invention as taught by independent claims 36 and 41. Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 36 and 41, therefore, are in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the present rejection. Further, because claims 37 and 39 depend from independent claim 36 and include all of the limitations of independent claim 36, and because dependent claims 42 and 44-46 depend from independent claim 41 and include all of the limitations of independent claim 41, Applicant respectfully submits that these dependent claims are also in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner also reconsider and withdraw the rejection of these dependent claims

The Examiner has rejected dependent claims 38 and 43 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Howell in view of Howell and Dreke et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication 200210035594 A1). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. As discussed above, the

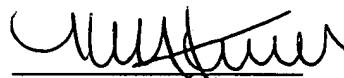
proposed combination of over LaPorta et al. in view of Howell fails to teach or suggest Applicant's invention as claimed in independent claims 36 and 41. In particular, the proposed combination of references fails to teach gathering contact information for wireless telecommunication devices from one or more wireless telecommunications service provider databases of subscriber information. Because dependent claims 38 depends from independent claim 36 and includes all of the limitations of independent claim 36, and because dependent claim 43 depends from independent claim 41 and includes all of the limitations of independent claim 41, Applicant respectfully submits that these dependent claims are also in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the present rejection.

The Examiner has rejected dependent claims 40 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over LaPorta et al. in view of Howell and Thorner et al. (WO 98156158). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. As discussed above, the proposed combination of over LaPorta et al. in view Howell fails to teach or suggest Applicant's invention as claimed in independent claim 40. In particular, the proposed combination of references fails to teach gathering contact information for wireless telecommunication devices from one or more wireless telecommunications service provider databases of subscriber information. Because dependent claims 40 depends from independent claim 36 and includes all of the limitations of independent claim 36, Applicant respectfully submits that these dependent claims are also in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the present rejection.

Summary

In light of the above amendment, consideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 50-4514.

Respectfully submitted,



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